Myth ADVENTURES!

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NOTES FROM THE PUBLISHER

IMPORTANT NOTICE — *Due to a massive computer crash in late December, some names may have been lost from our subscription lists. If you think you're missing an issue of* any *WaRP magazine or Fan Club mailing, write to us! A brief letter plus a photocopy of your cancelled check or money order are all we need. We'll put your name back into Datacruncher and send you whatever you've missed (or extend your subscription accordingly if you bought the issues on your own). Thanks for your help.*

Well it oughtn't be a secret any longer — certainly not if you've already read the *WaRP Graphics Annual*. (You mean you haven't yet? Stop right here! Go out and buy a copy and read the new Mythadventures story therein.) Aahz and Skeeve and assorted friends have a new artist.

(You ask, "What happened to Phil Foglio?!" Phil is alive and well — but after two years of doing adaptations, he wants to move on, the better to work on his own projects. What those projects may be we don't know, but we wish him all the success he deserves.)

Valentino (that's all the name there is, he says) is probably best known for his multi-level madcap work on *normalman*, published by Renegade Press. We think that Valentino is the perfect replacement for Phil — witness this very issue — since his art style retains enough of the old to be comfortably familiar and adds enough of the new to give your eyes and laugh muscles some new exercise.

This issue also marks another departure for our currently Klah-bound heroes. The story you read here and in the next three issues is all new, never before published, courtesy of Robert Asprin, the creator of the Myth books. Bob thought it would be a good idea to take a break between *Another Fine Myth* and *Myth-Conceptions*, and we readily agreed.

So let us know what you think. It's a new year, a new story, and a new look for the Magickal Misery Tour — and we think it's a *Perv*ect combination!

See you in 60!

Richard

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DO YOU THINK WE'LL *EVER* SEE THE OTHERS AGAIN, **AAHZ** —?

Myth ADVENTURES!

NOT FOR A WHILE...

BY THE TIME **TANANDA** GETS DONE RUNNING THEM THROUGH A FEW DIMENSIONS THEY'LL BE *LUCKY* TO FIND THEIR WAY TO THE JOHN...

LET ALONE BACK *HERE* TO *KLAH.*

ROBERT ASPRIN
CREATOR / SCRIPTOR
VALENTINO
ARTIST

PAUL ABRAMS & ART THIBERT
PAGES 1 – 25 INKS PAGES 26-28

DIANE VALENTINO
LETTERS

RICHARD PINI • JOELLYN DORKIN
EDIT/PUBLISHER ASSOC. EDITOR

A GUESS(T) APPEARANCE

NO, THE WAY I FIGURE IT, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE LOTS OF TIME TO OURSELVES..

...JUST YOU AND ME!

SOUNDS GREAT!

WHAT DO WE DO FIRST?

WE'RE DOING IT!

YOU'RE CLEANING UP WHILE I CATCH UP ON MY DRINKING.

GLUG!

GLUG!

GLUG!

IT'S BEEN A ROUGH FIGHT!

WAIT A MINUTE! HOW COME I HAVE TO WORK AND YOU GET TO RELAX?

BECAUSE YOU'RE THE APPRENTICE, -THAT'S WHY!

... YESSIR...

SO TELL ME, SKEEVE, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MAGICKAL CAREER SO FAR?

NOT MUCH.

HOW'S THAT AGAIN?

I SAID: "IT'S A RUSH"

A LOT OF FUN, AAHZ...

REALLY.

WELL, IT MAY NOT BE AS EXCITING AS YOU'VE GOTTEN USED TO FOR A WHILE...

NOW THAT WE'RE SAFE, THOUGH, YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO LEARN A LOT MORE!

KNOCK KNOCK

I THOUGHT YOU SAID WE WERE SAFE!

IS THAT WHY YOU'RE HIDING BEHIND A TABLE WITH A CROSS-BOW READY?

WE ARE!

SHUT UP AND OPEN THE DOOR.

AND SLAP A DISGUISE SPELL ON ME JUST IN CASE.

WHP! WHP!

BUT...

OH, ALL RIGHT.

BE *SURE* YOU LEAVE ME A CLEAR LINE OF *FIRE* WHEN YOU OPEN THE DOOR.

HEY! WHAT IS THIS!!

SORRY, AAHZ.

GOT TO GET THE DOOR!

ISSTHAN?!

ARE YOU THE *PROPRIETOR* OF THIS INN?

WELL, THAT IS, ER...

I AM *DUKE PINCHPINI* AND I REQUIRE LODGING FOR THE NIGHT.

COME RIGHT IN... IF YOU'LL PARDON THE PUN. OUR HUMBLE HOTEL IS HONORED TO HOST SUCH A NOBLE GUEST!

THINK YEW.

AAHZ, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR, KID? THIS GUY'S A DUKE!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO MAKE A LITTLE MONEY ON THE SIDE.

BUT WHAT ABOUT OUR TIME ALONE? MY MAGICK LESSONS?

LATER.

THIS FISH WON'T WAIT!

ZIP!

COULD YOU POSSIBLY HAVE SOMEONE SEE TO MY HORSE?

AND BE CAREFUL WITH HIM, HE'S VERY HIGH STRUNG!

FEAR NOT, MY ASSISTANT, SKEEVE, WILL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING!

... BUT...

DO IT, KID.

AND BE SURE THE DUKE'S STEED ISN'T DISTURBED BY OUR MATCHED UNICORNS.

OUR MATCHED?...

OH, YES...

...OF COURSE.

"WE'LL HAVE LOTS OF TIME," HE SAID. "JUST YOU AND ME," HE SAID...

I KNEW I'D HAVE TO HANDLE THE SWEEPING...

BUT NO ONE SAID ANYTHING ABOUT THE HORSE!

WAIT HERE, FELLA...

NOTE: HORSES, BEING INTELLIGENT CREATURES ARE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO FOOL WITH DISGUISE SPELLS THAN MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS SERIES...

SORRY ABOUT THIS, GLEEP, OLD BOY...

GLEEP?

YOU CAN COME IN NOW, FELLA.

OH. NO.

BLAMM!

ADDITIONAL NOTE: THE HORSE'S STRENGTH HAS BEEN INCREASED BY FEAR TO ENABLE HIM TO MAKE THIS LEAP...

SKEEVE'S STRENGTH, HOWEVER, HAS NOT.

GET... OFF...

...CAN'T BREATHE...

WHAM!

THANKS, GLEEP.

NOW *WHAT* ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH *YOU*?

DID YOU TAKE CARE OF THE *HORSE*?

WELL, UM, THAT IS...

GOOD! HELP ME FIND A *ROOM* FOR THE *DUKE*!

THERE'S SOME NICE ROOMS *UPSTAIRS.*

GREAT! GET HIS LUGGAGE UP TO ONE OF THEM *CHOP-CHOP!*

WHERE'D HE GET ALL THAT *LUGGAGE?*

HE'S NOBILITY. BE GLAD HE'S TRAVELING *LIGHT!*

BUT I CAN'T CARRY ALL *THAT!*

SO USE THE *ELEVATOR.* I'VE GOT TO KEEP THE *DUKE* HAPPY!

WELL, THAT'S TAKEN CARE OF..

BAD NEWS, KID. THE DUKE'S DECIDED HE WANTS...

A GROUND FLOOR ROOM!

WHAT!!?

I TOLD HIM IT WILL BE NO PROBLEM...

RIGHT, APPRENTICE?!

...NO PROBLEM.

WHAM

YOUR...BAGS ARE ...IN YOUR ROOM NOW... ANYTIME YOU WANT... YOU CAN GO TO... *SLEEP.*

EK-TUALLY, I'D HOPED TO HAVE A BITE TO EAT *BEFORE* I RETIRED.

OF COURSE, SIR...

I'LL ALERT THE *COOK.*

COOK? BUT AAHZ, WE DON'T *HAVE*...

...A COOK...

COME ON, AAHZ...

YOU WANT *ME* TO DO THE *COOKING?*

YOU *KNOW* THE KIND OF FOOD *WE* LIKE BACK ON *PERV.*

SIGH
NEW EYE
AH, WELL...
AT LEAST THIS JOB IS EASY...
NOW, LET'S SEE...
Z

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!?!

COOKING A MEAL?!?

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND!?!

NO DAMAGE DONE... SO FAR. NOW GET TO WORK, AND REMEMBER...

LOOK, KID. IF THE DUKE SEES YOU USING MAGICK, HE MIGHT START WONDERING ABOUT US.

REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED AT TWIXT?

SORRY, AHHZ.

NO MAGICK!

WEEDIES
TRICKS
TREATS
BARE ASPRIN
TYME
SAGE

HERE WE ARE!

IT'S ABOUT TIME!

THIS GUY DRINKS LIKE AN EDITOR!

YOUR MEAL, SIR. IT'S HUMBLE FARE, BUT OUR BEST.

SLURP

EXCELLENT!

WHEN DOES THE FLOOR SHOW START?

NO WAY!

THAT'S IT!

I'M NOT DRESSING UP LIKE A GIRL AGAIN!

RELAX, KID. I'VE GOT THIS ONE ALL FIGURED OUT!

ALL YOU'VE GOT TO DO IS GO OUT THERE AND PUT ON A MAGIC ACT, AND WE'RE OFF THE HOOK!

A MAGIC ACT?

THAT'S GREAT, AAHZ!

LET'S SEE, I CAN FLOAT A FEW THINGS, THEN...

A MAGICK ACT?!

BUT *YOU* WERE THE ONE WHO SAID I COULDN'T *USE* MAGICK BEFORE!

THAT WAS *COOKING*. NOW THAT HE'S EXPECTING *ENTERTAINMENT*, HE'LL JUST THINK IT'S *TRICKS*!

SO *WHY* DIDN'T I JUST *COOK* HIS MEAL IN FRONT OF HIM *MAGICKALLY* AND SAY IT WAS *ENTERTAINMENT*?

GREAT IDEA, KID. TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T THINK OF IT *SOONER*!

VERY AMUSING...

NOW, IF YOU'LL FORGIVE ME, IT'S TIME I *RETIRED* FOR THE NIGHT

IF THERE'S *ANYTHING* ELSE WE CAN GET FOR YOU.

NO, I'LL BE *FINE.*

JUST BE SURE MY *HORSE* IS SEEN TO...

HE'S QUITE *VALUABLE,* YOU KNOW.

WAKE ME AT *DAYBREAK* I *MUST* GET AN EARLY START

AND DO TRY TO BE *QUIET* I'M A *VERY* LIGHT SLEEPER

1

I HOPE YOU'RE *SATISFI*...

SHHHH...

... REMEMBER THE *DUKE.*

RELAX, KID.

I HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED! WE'VE MADE *COMPLETE* FOOLS OF OURSELVES!

THINK OF THE *MONEY!*

THERE ARE SOME THINGS MORE IMPORTANT THAN MONEY!

LIKE WHAT?

SCHLUPP!

LIKE PRIDE... SELF-ESTEEM...

SPLURP!

YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT BEING A MAGICIAN, KID. YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE PROUD YET.

WAIT UNTIL YOU'VE GOT A BANKROLL BEHIND YOU! THEN YOU CAN BE AS PROUD OR PICKY AS YOU WANT!

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, AAHZ...

...IN THE MEANTIME, LET'S BE SURE WE'VE GOT OUR BASES COVERED!

SCHLUPP!

IS THE DUKE'S HORSE SECURE?

THE *HORSE*? WELL...THAT IS...

I DON'T KNOW

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU...

THAT'S RIGHT - THE *HORSE* YOU WERE *SUPPOSE* TO PUT IN THE *STABLE*...

IS IT ALL RIGHT?

SHHHHH... REMEMBER THE *DUKE*...

...DON'T *KNOW*?

GULP!

I LEFT HIM WITH GLEEP AND BUTTERCUP.

YOU KNOW, OUR DRAGON AND UNICORN.

I KNOW WHO.

GLEEP AND BUTTERCUP?

SHHHHH! THE DUKE...

...THEY ARE!

WHY DID YOU LEAVE A VALUABLE HORSE WITH THOSE TWO FREAKS?

THEY DIDN'T EXACTLY GIVE ME A CHOICE.

C'MON, KID...

WE'RE GOING TO CHECK THIS OUT.

AND IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO THAT HORSE IT'S YOUR NECK.

HELP!

OH NO.

...I DON'T GET IT... I JUST DON'T *GET* IT.

THEY LOOK LIKE THEY'RE A'DOING ALL RIGHT TO *ME!*

I *SUPPOSE* IT'S ALL RIGHT...

...AS LONG AS THEY *DON'T* WAKE UP THE *DUKE.*

C'MON *AANZ!* WHAT COULD *POSSIBLY* GO WRONG?

THE MIND *BOGGLES.*

EXCEPT IT *WON'T!* BECAUSE *YOU'RE* GOING TO STAY RIGHT HERE TONIGHT AND SEE THAT IT *DOESN'T...*

APPRENTICE!

... *REMEMBER,* THIS IS *YOUR* DOING.

BUT...

RIGHT!?

RIGHT.

LATER...

MUCH LATER...

STILL LATER

TOO LATE!

WAKE UP, KID!

WHAA... ??

WHO?...

WE'VE *OVERSLEPT!*

GO WAKE UP THE DUKE WHILE *I* TRY TO GET HIS *HORSE* READY...

AH... DUKE?...

AHEM! YOUR DUKENESS!

RISE 'N SHINE, DUKEY-BOY!

KA-LAM!

LIGHT SLEEPER, EH?

HMMM... WHAT TO TRY *NEXT*? I'LL FLIP A COIN AND...

UH-OH

TING

MORNING ALREADY?

GRACIOUS!

I DON'T KNOW *WHEN* I'VE SLEPT SO *WELL*!

IT *MUST* BE THE *PEACE* AND *QUIET*.

YOUR HORSE IS *READY*, SIR.

THE COUNTRY AIR SEEMS TO HAVE *AGREED* WITH HIM, I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LOOKING SO *HAPPY*.

WHAT MAKES *HIM* SO *VALUABLE*, ANYWAY?

HIS *PURITY*.

IT'S *VERY* IMPORTANT FOR SOMEONE OF *NOBLE* STANDING TO HAVE A *PURE* HORSE...

I BOUGHT *HIM* FROM A *MONK*...

YOU KNOW, AT ONE OF THOSE *MONASTERIES* WHERE THEY MAKE *WINE*.

WELL, I *MUST* BE GOING NOW.

...I MEAN, THERE'S THE *MINOR* MATTER OF YOUR *BILL*...

OH, YES.

EVEN THOUGH THE KING HAS DECREED THAT THE *NOBILITY* DOESN'T HAVE TO *PAY* FOR IT'S *LODGINGS*, I'VE HAD SUCH A GOOD TIME I FEEL YOU SHOULD HAVE *SOME* REWARD.

HERE'S *A COIN* FOR YOUR EFFORTS.

GEE! ONE WHOLE COIN!

...THE...

...KING...

IS THERE SOMETHING *WRONG* WITH HIM?

HE'S JUST *OVERCOME* BY YOUR *GENEROSITY*.

...DON'T...

...PAY...

...THE...

...KING...

...ONE...

...COIN...

...DON'T...

...PAY...

...WELL, I'M *SURE* YOUR *FUTURE* WILL BE *BRIGHTER* NOW...

...KEEP UP THE GOOD *WORK*.

MUCH, MUCH LATER...

SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW THAT WE'VE MADE OUR FORTUNES? CAN I AFFORD *PRIDE* YET?

I *DON'T* WANT TO *HEAR* ABOLIT IT ANYMORE! *OKAY*, KID?

YOU'VE GOTTEN YOUR POUND OF *FLESH*.

GEE, AND FOR JUST *ONE* COIN!

I SAID...

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT ANYMORE!!

...OR WOULD YOU LIKE *ME* TO START TALKING ABOUT SOME OF *YOUR* MISTAKES?

OKAY, IT'S A *DEAL*.

I WONDER WHAT THE DUKE *MEANT* WHEN HE SAID OUR FUTURES SHOULD LOOK *BRIGHTER*.

RAT-TA-TAP, TAP!

HOW SHOULD *I* KNOW?

GO SEE *WHO* THAT IS...

...AND IF IT'S THE *DUKE*, TELL HIM WE'RE *FULL UP!*

OH, IT'S SO QUAINT!

COMPLETELY IT-INDUBITABLY.

JUST THE WAY THE *DUKE* DESCRIBED IT!

IT'S THE *NOW* PLACE TO BE.

IT'S THE *GREATEST.*

NEXT: STRAFED BY THE JEET!

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